

using secret depositions to get around the sunshine rules of this House. Everything is carefully, reprehensibly designed to obscure reality.

This is a watershed moment of monumental, historic significance. For the sake of our constitutional Republic, we must start over and do it the right way.

Unfortunately, today the Rules Committee will meet to mark up a resolution that does absolutely nothing to change our dark course.

Don't listen to Democrat talking points. This resolution is political cover disguised as good will. This is not a vote to authorize impeachment but a vote to validate and continue the committee's disgraceful, improperly-conducted proceedings.

This resolution permits the majority to continue holding proceedings in secret whenever the majority arbitrarily decides to do so; and, unlike previous impeachment proceedings, this majority's empty assurance to offer the minority the right to issue subpoenas is a sham. In fact, the minority is only authorized to issue subpoenas if ADAM SCHIFF and the Democrats on his committee agree with them, the exact same situation the minority currently faces in all but name.

It gives the President no right of due process and, instead, instructs the chair of the Rules Committee to determine, down the road, what the procedures will be for participation of the President of the United States and his counsel.

In the resolution presented by the majority, the President is given no right to see evidence, present evidence, call witnesses, have counsel present at all hearings and depositions, cross-examine witnesses, make objections relating to the examination of witnesses or the admissibility of testimony and evidence, or respond to evidence and testimony.

How can President Trump defend himself if he cannot see the evidence against him? Just as importantly, how can the American people make an informed judgment?

Under this resolution, the House would deputize ADAM SCHIFF and JERRY NADLER, handpicked by Speaker PELOSI, to be prosecutor, judge, and jury. The majority chooses what is seen and unseen by the American people.

This is a Star Chamber proceeding reminiscent of some of the most egregious practices of tin-pot dictators.

Political coups are often shrouded in patriotic overtones. Look past the talking points and empty promises from Democrats. We must expose what this resolution really does and the calamitous consequences for due process and separation of powers it will unleash.

Silence in this matter is complicity. We must rally together to fight back for the sake of the country we hold dear. The fate of our Nation depends on it.

IN CELEBRATION OF FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. CASE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as Filipino American History Month, a time for all Americans to remember and celebrate the incredible past, present, and future of our fellow citizens whose heritage lies in the great country of the Philippines.

I am especially humbled to do so as the proud Representative of Hawaii's First Congressional District, where live more Filipino Americans—close to 200,000—than in any of our 440 districts throughout our country. And with Hawaii's Second Congressional District number two, at about 175,000, our Fil-Am community in Hawaii stands at about 375,000, one-quarter of all Hawaii residents and, by far, the largest percentage of any State or territory.

We observe Filipino American History Month in October because the first recorded arrival of Filipinos in the continental United States took place in 1587, when the Luzones Indios came ashore from the Manila-built galleon *Nuestra Senora de Esperanza* in Morro Bay, California.

And in 1906, 113 years ago, the first 15 sakada, or contract laborers, arrived in Honolulu from the Philippines aboard the SS *Doric*, marking the first sustained immigration into our country and the humble beginnings of Fil-Ams in Hawaii.

Today, our Fil-Am community numbers some 4 million throughout our country, now the second largest of our Asian American groups.

The story of Filipino Americans is the story of America. From very humble beginnings, they have risen through hard work, sacrifice, commitment to advancing the next generations, and mutual support to achieve so much already.

Hawaii Fil-Ams, in particular, have been trailblazers:

Peter Aduja became the first Fil-Am elected to public office in the United States when he was elected to the Hawaii territorial House of Representatives in 1954.

Benjamin Menor became the first Fil-Am higher court judge as associate justice of the Hawaii State Supreme Court.

Ben Cayetano was the first Filipino American Governor of a U.S. State.

Major General Antonio Taguba was the second Filipino American promoted to general officer rank in our Army.

Eddie Flores, Jr., bought the first L&L Drive-In on Liliha Street in Honolulu in 1976, turning it into a national franchise.

Carolina Dizon Wong was the first Filipino American woman to obtain an M.D. degree.

Ines Cayaban was the first Filipino American graduate of the school of public health, nursing, and social work

at the University of Hawaii. She received the prestigious Jefferson Award in 1986 for her service.

Francisco Flores "Corky" Trinidad, Jr., of Honolulu was an award-winning editorial cartoonist of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, who became the first Asian editorial cartoonist syndicated in the United States.

And a loyal veteran of the 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment that fought alongside our troops in the Philippines during World War II, Domingo Los Banos was Hawaii's first Filipino American school principal.

I was recently honored to join the promotion ceremony in Honolulu of Roy Macareg from colonel to brigadier general in the Hawaii Army National Guard, the first Fil-Am to become a general officer in the history of Hawaii's citizen soldier ranks.

In Hawaii, we also regularly honor the over 250,000 Filipinos who answered the call to protect and defend the United States and the Philippines in the Pacific theater. In 2016, President Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act to bestow Congress' highest honor upon these worthy veterans.

We also, of course, celebrate, right here in Congress, our proud Fil-Ams who serve our country here, my colleagues BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia and TJ COX of California.

Each and all of these lives of achievement are but a very small sampling of a broader community that has achieved so much and contributed so much to the rich fabric of our country. And the story of Filipino Americans is still in its early chapters.

Why are Filipino Americans among our most successful communities? General Macareg spoke to some of that at his promotion ceremony when he credited his own success to the hard work and sacrifice for him and his five siblings of his father, a laborer, and mother, a teacher, to the values they instilled, and to the constant nurturing and support of his broader community.

That well describes Filipino Americans overall, that and a full and constant embrace of the values, responsibilities, and opportunities of America, while honoring and treasuring the rich heritage of their ancestral homeland.

All of this is why I recently joined Congressman COX in introducing H. Res. 621, a resolution to express support for the permanent designation of October as Filipino American History Month.

We urge our colleagues' support to promote an ongoing appreciation of the contributions of Filipino Americans to our country and to the rich diversity of our Nation.

To Fil-Ams everywhere: "Thank you very much and God bless"—"maraming salamat po and dios ti agngina"—and congratulations. I truly look forward to partnering with you on your next proud chapters.

RECOGNIZING PENNSBURY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 12-AND-UNDER AND 8-AND-UNDER BASEBALL TEAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pennsbury Athletic Association 12-and-under and 8-and-under baseball teams, who were both honored for their championship-winning seasons.

The 8-and-under team had an undefeated regular season. They went on to win the district, State, mid-Atlantic, and world series championships. The team's final record was an impressive 38-1, which included going undefeated during the Cal Ripken World Series.

The 12-and-under team had a great season as well, winning the annual Keystone Cup State tournament. Winning is nothing new for this team. In the last 4 years, they have won two State titles and four district titles. They will be finishing the season with an amazing trip to Cooperstown for the national tournament.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of these teams show the importance sports can play in our children's lives. Team sports teach the importance of hard work, being part of a team, dedication, and sportsmanship. All these skills help mold our children and will help mold our children into the leaders of tomorrow.

I commend the accomplishments of these amazing kids and their coaches.

RECOGNIZING BRISTOL TOWNSHIP POLICE OFFICERS CJ WINIK AND KURT LEACOCK

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two police officers from Bristol Township.

Officers CJ Winik and Kurt Leacock were promoted to the rank of sergeant in front of family, friends, and colleagues. Both officers serve on the Bucks County Homicide by Vehicle Task Force.

Sergeant Winik has been a part of the Bristol police force since 2006. He has worked as a field training officer, accident reconstructionist, firearms instructor, community response unit officer, and on the SWAT team. He will serve in the administrative division, supervising professional standards, accreditation, and training management.

Sergeant Leacock has been part of the department since 2007. He has served as a field training officer, drug recognition expert, and on the crisis intervention team. He will share duties with shift commander Sergeant Tom Gaffney on patrol.

Mr. Speaker, the role both of these officers play in keeping our community safe is admirable, and I want to wish the best to both of these men in their new positions and thank them for all their service to our community.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support National Vet-

erans Small Business Week, which will take place from November 4 through November 8.

Our veterans are some of the most highly skilled workers in our Nation. They are the product of rigorous training, an ironclad commitment to teamwork, and the remarkable ability to succeed where others might fail.

Veterans not only fight for and protect this country but are trained with the skills and leadership qualities that are needed to own and operate successful businesses.

Our veteran small business owners are job creators, entrepreneurs, and heroes, and I am proud to recognize the important role that veteran-owned small businesses play in our community, and we thank all of them, from a grateful Congress, for their service.

THE SUBSTANCE UNDERLYING THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, President Trump urged his Republican defenders in this House to focus on substance. That is exactly what House Democrats have been doing from the very beginning of this impeachment inquiry.

We will continue to proceed in a serious, solemn, and somber fashion. That is what the Constitution requires at this moment.

House Democrats will continue to follow the facts, apply the law, be guided by the Constitution, and present the truth to the American people.

President Trump said focus on substance.

What is the substance underlying this impeachment inquiry?

Well, Congress, on a bipartisan basis, allocated \$391 million in military and economic aid to Ukraine at a time when Ukraine is under attack by Russian-backed separatists.

Ukraine is in a vulnerable state.

Ukraine is a friend; Russia is a foe.

Ukraine is a democracy; Russia is a dictatorship.

The United States is probably the only thing standing between Vladimir Putin and Ukraine being completely overrun as part of Putin's fantasy to reconstruct what he views as the glory days of the Soviet Union.

We allocated that money because it is in the national security interest of the United States of America.

What happened to it?

In February, the Trump administration wrote to Congress and said the aid is on the way. But it never showed up.

□ 1045

And then in May, Trump's Department of Defense wrote to Congress again and said the aid is on the way and all necessary preconditions to release the aid have been met, including the implementation of anticorruption protocols. That was a letter written by

the Trump Department of Defense in May. That is the substance.

Twice MITCH MCCONNELL during this summer called up the Trump administration and said, "Where's the aid?" Mr. MCCONNELL couldn't get a good answer.

And then on July 18, we know that the Office of Management and Budget in the White House held a meeting where it was made clear that the reason the aid had been held up is because of a directive from the President of the United States.

A week later, on July 25, the President made a phone call to the Ukrainian leader and pressured a foreign government to target an American citizen for political gain and solicit foreign interference in the 2020 election.

That undermines our national security. The American people have a right to ask: Is that an abuse of power?

That is what the impeachment inquiry is all about, Mr. President. That is the substance. It doesn't look good. No one is above the law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADDRESSING THE BROKEN REFUGEE SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address our broken refugee system and its very real effect on families in my hometown of Columbus, Ohio.

Our Nation has always been a beacon of hope and light for those who face violence, persecution, and oppression, but in recent years we have not been living up to that standard. And our failure has a severe impact on good, hardworking people that would make our Nation stronger.

Take, for example, Bashiya, who currently lives in Columbus, Ohio. Bashiya, in many ways, embodies what we know to be American. She is the wife of a man who served our military. She loves her family. She is hardworking. And she has built a life for herself and her family in Ohio. In many ways her story is much like ours.

Unfortunately, one piece of her story is missing. Her husband, Hamad, lives on the other side of the world in Australia. Hamad served alongside the U.S. Army as an interpreter in Iraq, and the repayment for his bravery was repeated and sustained threats against him, Bashiya, and their two young children. The danger they faced ultimately drove the young family apart.

The refugee process, and particularly the Special Immigrant Visa process that was designed to protect people like Hamad failed him. The application and vetting process was dragging on with no end in sight, and the continued threats convinced Hamad that he needed to flee for his life, so he fled to Australia. That was in 2012.